



**U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service
Black Hills National Forest
Special Restrictions
Over Snow Travel Order**

PROHIBITIONS

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50 (a) and (b), the following acts prohibited on the National Forest System (NFS) lands, roads, and trails within the Black Hills National Forest located in Lawrence, Pennington, Meade, Custer and Fall River Counties of South Dakota and Crook and Weston Counties of Wyoming described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A (the "Restricted Areas," "Restricted Roads," and the Restricted Trails"):

1. Operating or possessing a motor vehicle, except for an over-the-snow vehicle designed for use over snow that runs on a track or tracks and/or a ski or skis, on the Restricted Trails. 36 C.F.R. § 261.55(b)
2. Operating or possessing a motor vehicle, except for an over-the-snow vehicle designed for use over snow that runs on a track or tracks and/or a ski or skis, on the Restricted Roads. 36 C.F.R. § 261.54(a)
3. Operating or possessing an over-snow vehicle on certain National Forest System Roads shown on the maps attached as Appendix A; 36 C.F.R. § 261.54(a)
4. Operating or possessing an over-snow vehicle in the Restricted Areas. 36 C.F.R. § 261.56

EXEMPTIONS

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force when in the performance of an official duty.
2. Any person with a special use authorization or other Forest Service authorization specifically exempting them from the effect of this Order.
3. Any person who is transporting an over-snow vehicle in a vehicle or trailer on a road that is open to other than over-snow vehicles.
4. Fat Bikes designed for over snow use with tires 3.5 inches or wider on designated trails only. (see Appendix A)

DEFINITIONS

Over-snow Vehicle - A motor vehicle that is designed for use over snow and that runs on a track

or tracks and/or a ski or skis, while in use over snow. 36 C.F.R. § 212.1.

DESCRIBED AREA/ROADS/TRAILS

Designated areas, roads, and trails used for Over the Snow travel in cooperation with the States of South Dakota and Wyoming as depicted in Exhibit A.


PURPOSE

The purpose of this Order is to provide for public health and safety by prohibiting wheeled vehicles on the snowmobile trail system and prohibiting snowmobiles on cross country ski areas or plowed roads that are open to motorized vehicles other than over-snow vehicles. This Order also provides resource protection for special biological communities and wintering wildlife by prohibiting over-snow vehicles in wildlife winter range areas. These areas are designated in the Black Hills National Forest Plan Phase II Amendment guideline 9103 as management areas.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. This Order shall be in effect from December 15, 2023 at 12:00 a.m. through March 31, 2024 at 11:59 p.m., unless rescinded.
2. A map identifying the Described Area/Roads/Trails is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A. For a digital version of this Order and Exhibit A, go to <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/blackhills/alerts-notice>.
3. Unless otherwise expressly defined in this Order, the terms used in this Order are defined by the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299. If there are terms in this Order that are not expressly defined in the Order or 36 C.F.R. Chapter II, Parts 200-299, their meaning shall be determined by their plain language definitions.
4. A violation of the above prohibitions is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551; 18 U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581.
5. Contact the Northern Hills Ranger District in Spearfish, SD, (605) 642-4622, and Black Hills National Forest Supervisor's Office in Custer, SD, (605) 673-9200, for more information about this Order.
6. This Order supersedes any previous Orders prohibiting the same or similar acts in and on the same Described Areas, Roads, and Trails.

Signed and issued on 11/30/2023.



Acting Forest Supervisor
Black Hills National Forest